

# USDA / Rural Development

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## News Release

### **Contact:**

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### ***USDA awards Irrigon \$500,000 grant, \$380,000 loan***

Irrigon received a \$500,000 grant and a \$380,000 loan from the Department of Agriculture's (USDA), Rural Utilities Service (RUS) Water and Waste Program. The grant and loan will be used to pay for needed improvements to the City's wastewater treatment and collection system.

The City has experienced problems with their sewer system in the last few years. Inadequate treatment has prevented the City from meeting their discharge permit requirements with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), resulting in an order from DEQ to improve their system in order to avoid fines. The new treatment facility combined with improvements to the collection system will enable the City to meet permit requirements and meet current and future needs for wastewater treatment and collection.

The project includes the construction of preliminary and secondary treatment facilities with an extended aeration lagoon, additional infiltration beds, septage receiving facilities, facultative sludge lagoon and conversion of approximately 40% of the small diameter gravity sewer lines to conventional gravity sewers with a new pump station and revisions to an existing station.

In addition to Federal funds the City is receiving a combination loan and grant from Oregon Economic and Community Development totaling \$1,000,000. The City has contributed approximately \$216,341 for the project to date. The total anticipated cost of the project is \$5,846,341